

PLANTAE NOVAE AFRICANAE

“Ex Africa semper aliquid novi”—Pliny.

SERIES XXXIII

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(*Compton Herbarium, Kirstenbosch*)

ABSTRACT

Six new species of flowering plants from Swaziland are described.

UITTREKSEL

Ses nuwe blomplantsoorte vanaf Swaziland word beskryf.

INTRODUCTION

The following names and descriptions are given for new species collected in Swaziland and continue the publication in this periodical, vol. 33, pp. 293-304, October 1967. The specimens cited are preserved in the Herbarium of the Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, and the Compton Herbarium, National Botanic Gardens, Kirstenbosch. My sincere thanks are due to the heads and staffs of these institutions for their invaluable assistance throughout my work on the flora of Swaziland.

Kalanchoe alticola Compton (Crassulaceae).—Herba perennis erecta succulenta glabra, leviter glauca. Folia pauca opposita, in caulis parte inferiore sessilia, ovata, integra, basim contracta, obtusa, marginibus subcoriaceis. Inflorescentia in pedunculo elongato terminalis, dichasio-corymbosa; calycis segmenti acuti; corolla flava, base ventricosa, segmentis patentibus acutis.

Perennial, glabrous throughout. Rhizome horizontal, shallow, elongated, c 5 mm diam., prolonged at apex into erect aerial shoot c 25 cm high, occasionally with lateral shoots also. Shoot bears up to 5 pairs of imbricating somewhat succulent slightly glaucous leaves on its basal half, above which it bears one or two remote pairs of reduced leaves separated by long internodes and ends in a dichasio-corymbose inflorescence c 5 cm diam. Lower leaves sessile, narrowing gradually to base, widest above middle, obtuse, up to 4 cm long $\times$ 2 cm wide with entire subcoriaceous margin. Leaves on inflorescence axis similar, up to 1.5 cm long $\times$ 1 cm wide. Calyx c 5 mm long, lobes acute. Corolla tube inflated, c 1 cm long, lobes spreading, c 6 mm long, pointed, clear light or deep yellow.

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Hab. Swaziland. Highveld, peaty rock surfaces and crevices. Fl. May–September.

2631 (Mbabane): Mukusini Hills c 1 300 m alt. (-AB), *Compton 32107* (NBG, holotype); *Compton 30437*; *Karsten s.n.*, 11/5/1963.

Lotononis spicata Compton (Leguminosae).—Caules erecti, dense foliosi, ubique sparse pilosi, pauci. Folia sessilia, trifoliata, segmentis subequalibus erecto-patentibus, ovato-lanceolatis, obtusis. Inflorescentia dense spicata, floribus in foliorum superiorum axillis, foliis obtectis. Calycis lobus anterior angustus, superiores minuti, reflexi. Corolla flava; vexillum obtusum, alae angustiores, carina obtusa.

Rhizomatous perennial. Shoots erect, up to 25 cm high, with few branches near base. Stems, leaves and calyces with scattered long fine hairs. Leaves numerous, hiding stem, trifoliate, sessile, erecto-patent, lobes about equal, lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, entire, obtuse, up to 2 cm long $\times$ 7 mm wide, usually less. Flowers borne along upper half of shoot forming a dense spike, shorter than and partly hidden by subtending leaves. Calyx c 5 mm long to the tip of the very narrow anterior lobe, other calyx-lobes very small, reflexed. Corolla yellow, vexillum a little darker, erect, obtuse, c 8 mm long; alae narrow, c 4 mm long; carina obtuse, c 8 mm long.

Hab. Swaziland. Highveld grassland. Fl. March. 2631 (Mbabane): Mpala-
leni, c 1 300 m alt. (-AB), *Compton 32111* (NBG, holotype); 3 miles W. of
Mankaiana (-CA), c 1 300 m alt. *Compton 28666*; Ngwenya Mts. c 1 650 m alt.,
Compton 26737.

Acalypha moggii Compton. (Euphorbiaceae).—Radix lignosa, perennis. Caules flexuosi, internodiis elongatis, foliis paucis, ubique sparse pilosi. Petiola perlonga; lamina late ovata, acuta, forte cordata, marginibus dentatis. Planta monoecia. Inflorescentiae axillares, inferiores masculae, longe pedunculatae, floribus dense longe spicatis. Inflorescentia feminea lata, haud pedunculata; bracteae latae, laciniatae, imbricatae, floribus obtectis, stigmatibus haud productis.

Woody rootstock from which rise single shoots up to 130 cm high, unbranched except near apex. Stem prominently ribbed, sparsely hairy, up to 7 mm diam., internodes up to 10 cm long. Leaves alternate, petiole up to 8 cm long, lamina broadly ovate, up to 8 cm long $\times$ 6 cm wide, tapering to narrow point, deeply cordate, margins regularly closely dentate, teeth up to 3 mm long and wide, veins very narrow. Monoecious. Inflorescences axillary, males below, females usually single near apex of shoot, occasionally lower. Male peduncle slender, up to 5 cm long, sometimes with leafy basal bract, flowers very numerous, densely crowded in slender spike up to 7 cm long $\times$ 4 mm diam., perianth 2 mm long, hairy, stamens protruding. Female spike clasped at base by small leaves, massive, up to 8 cm long $\times$ 2.5 cm diam., usually less;

bracts broad, imbricate, laciniate, acuminate, strongly ribbed, with copious stalked glands; stigmas not evident; capsule c 4 mm diam.

Hab. Highveld swamps. Fl. January–April. 2430 (Acornhoek): Rosehaugh, Pilgrim's Rest, 1 200 m alt. (-DD), *Mogg 13666* (PRE, holotype); Belfast, 2 000 m alt., *Bruce 500. 2531* (Komatipoort): Piggs Peak, 1 000 m alt. (-CC), *Compton 27625, 30615*.

First collected by Dr. A. O. D. Mogg, 10th January 1938.

Dicliptera divaricata Compton (Acanthaceae).—Caules subrigidi herbacei, ramis numerosis divaricatis, internodiis elongatis. Folia opposita, sparse puberula, breviter petiolata, lanceolata, minute apiculata. Flores paucae in axillis superioribus; corolla pallide purpurea.

Erect, rather stiffly herbaceous, up to c 60 cm high, branching freely at c 45°. Stems slender, prominently 4-ridged, almost or quite glabrous, internodes of main stem up to 10 cm long. Leaves in opposite pairs, spreading or deflexed, very sparsely puberulous throughout; petiole up to 5 mm long; lamina lanceolate, broadest below middle, minutely apiculate, faintly veined, up to 4 cm long $\times$ 1 cm wide. Flowers rather few in upper leaf-axils, opening singly; outer bracts c 8 mm long $\times$ 2 mm wide, long-attenuate; calyx 4 mm long; bracts and calyx minutely puberulous; corolla mauve, tube c 8 mm long, lobes c 1 cm long; filaments inserted at mouth of corolla, straight, c 8 mm long, antherlobes roundish borne at different levels.

Hab. Swaziland. Lowveld. Fl. March. 2731 (Louwsberg): Ingwavuma Poort, 100 m alt. (-BB), *Compton 28614* (NBG, holotype); Gollel, 100 m alt. (-BD), *Rubin s.n.*

Lobelia coddii Compton (Campanulaceae).—Planta perennis, fastigiata, caulibus rectis. Folia multa, sessilia, erecto-patentia, mesonevro prominente, marginibus paucodentatis. Flores multae in foliarum reductarum axillis, pedicellatae; calyx campanulatus, lobis expansis, angustis, apiculatis; corolla azurea vel variegata, segmentis dorsalibus reflexis, ventralibus expansis.

Tufted perennial, producing a large number of erect straight shoots from a woody rootstock, up to c 45 cm high, sparingly erectly branched near base, more widely branched near apex. Stems and leaves thinly hairy, becoming glabrous with age. Stems with few narrow ribs. Leaves numerous, rather uniform in shape and size throughout, erecto-patent, sessile, lanceolate, with strong midrib, minutely apiculate, margins entire or with one or two forward-directed pointed teeth on each side, up to 8 mm long $\times$ 4 mm wide, seldom larger. Flowers numerous, mostly solitary in axils of reduced leaves; pedicel up to 2 cm long; calyx 7 mm long, hairy, campanulate at base, lobes spreading, narrow apiculate; corolla blue, sometimes with yellow blotch, two upper lobes 2 mm long, reflexed on either side of united anthers, three lower lobes expanded, obtuse, c 3 mm long $\times$ 2 mm wide.

Hab. Swaziland. Rocky places on mountains. Fl. about March. 2631 (Mbabane): Hills c 3 miles W of Mbabane, rocks, c 1 100 m alt. (-AC), *Compton* 25727 (NBG, holotype); Hills c 3 miles W of Mbabane, shallow soil on granite crest c 1 200 m alt., *Codd* 9516 (PRE).

Lobelia delicatula Compton (Campanulaceae).—Planta delicatissima. Caules tenues, undulati. Folia alternata, breviter petiolata; lamina late triangulata, obtusa, fragilis, marginibus subcrenulatis; calycis segmenti angusti, acuminati; corolla alba vel pallide azurea.

Very slender annual, sometimes perennating with a short rootstock. Roots few. Stems up to c 15 cm long, undulate, c 1 mm diam., ridged, with few slender erect hairs. Leaves alternate, irregularly spaced on stem; petiole up to 5 mm long; lamina very delicate, equilateral-triangular, up to 1 cm long and wide, base almost straight, sides curved, margins slightly crenulate, apex obtuse, lower surface with a few minute hairs. Upper leaves smaller and narrower with few axillary flowers. Pedicel capillary, up to 2 cm long, flower horizontal becoming erect on withering. Calyx 4 mm long, segments narrow, acuminate. Corolla pale blue or white, c 6 mm long, upper lip c 2 mm shorter than lower which has 3 short lobes c 1 mm wide.

Hab. Swaziland. Highveld, moist peaty soil in shade of rocks or on moist banks in forest shade. Fl. February to April. 2631 (Mbabane): Hill N.E. of Mbabane, c 1 400 m alt. (-AC), *Compton* 27538 (NBG, holotype); *Compton* 25809; Black Mbuluzi Falls, c 1 100 m alt. (-AA), *Compton* 26852.